Please cancel Claims 25 and 55 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter and amend Claims 21, 51, 64 and 65 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. to 20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) A data processing method comprising the steps of:

reading multiple kinds of meta-data from data files belonging to a directory, each of the data files having both content data and meta-data formed by text data to indicate characteristics of the content data;

extracting common text data forming common meta-data from the multiple kinds of meta-data included in the data files read in said reading step;

generating a new directory for the data files;

generating new directory meta-data for the new directory by using the common text data extracted in said extracting step; [[and]]

attaching the new directory meta-data generated in said generating step to the new directory; and

second generating means for generating another new directory for data files to which are attached meta-data which does not include the common text data used in the new directory meta-data.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously presented) The method set forth in claim 21, wherein:

when in said searching step there is no common text data, the new directory

meta-data for the new directory is generated based on text data forming meta-data included

in most of the data files belonging to the new directory.

24. and 25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously presented) The method set forth in claim 21, wherein:

each data file includes image data, audio data, or dynamic image data.

27. (Previously presented) The method set forth in claim 21, wherein:

in said attaching step, the new directory meta-data generated in said

generating step is appended to the end of the new directory data.

28. to 50. (Canceled)

51. (Currently amended) A data processing device comprising:

reading means for reading multiple kinds of meta-data from data files

belonging to a directory, each of the data files having both content data and meta-data

formed by text data to indicate characteristics the content data;

extracting means for extracting common text data forming common meta-data, from the multiple kinds of meta-data included in the data files;

generating means for generating a new directory for the data files, and generating new directory meta-data for the new directory by using the common text data extracted by said extracting means; [[and]]

attaching means for attaching the new directory meta-data generated by said generating means to the new directory; and

second generating means for generating another new directory for data files to which are attached meta-data which does not include the common text data used in the new directory meta-data.

52. (Canceled)

53. (Previously presented) The device set forth in claim 51, wherein when said searching means finds no common text data, said generating means generates the new directory meta-data based on text data forming meta-data item included in most of the data files belonging to the new directory.

54. and 55. (Canceled)

56. (Previously presented) The device set forth in claim 51, wherein:

each data file includes image data, audio data, or dynamic image data.

57. (Currently amended) The device set forth in claim 51, wherein:

said attaching means appends the new directory meta-data generated by said generating means to the end of the new directory data.

58. to 63. (Canceled)

64. (Currently amended) A computer-readable memory medium storing a control program to be executed by a computer, said control program comprising code for performing the steps of:

reading multiple kinds of meta-data from data files belonging to an indicated directory, each of the data files having both content data and meta-data formed by text data to indicate characteristics of the content data;

extracting common text data forming common meta-data included in the data files, from the multiple kinds of meta-data;

generating a new directory for the data files;

generating new directory meta-data for the new directory by using the common text data in said extracting step; [[and]]

attaching the new meta-data generated in said generating step to the new directory; and

generating another new directory for data files to which are attached meta-data which does not include the common text data used in the new directory meta-data.

65. (Currently amended) A data processing device comprising:

a reading unit adapted to read multiple kinds of meta-data from data files, each of the data files having both content data and meta-data formed by text data to indicate characteristics of the content data; and

a processing unit adapted to extract common text data from multiple kinds of meta-data included in the data files, to generate a new directory for the data files, and new directory meta-data for the new directory by using the extracted common text data, [[and]] to attach the generated new directory meta-data to the new directory, and to generate another new directory for data files to which are attached meta-data which does not include the common text data used in the new directory meta-data.